



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION  
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

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**Date:** May 23, 2019

**Attachment 12**

**To:** State Board of Fire Services

**From:** Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training

**SUBJECT/AGENDA ACTION ITEM:**

Long Beach Fire Department Initial Accredited Local Academy (ALA) Accreditation

**Recommended Actions:** Recommend Long Beach Fire Department become an ALA in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the initial accreditation period of three (3) years.

**Background Information:**

An accreditation site visit was conducted on March 6, 2019, at the Long Beach Fire Department Training Tower located at 2249 Argonne Avenue in Long Beach, California. The Accreditation Site Evaluation Team included Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal Chris Fowler, State Fire Training, Deputy State Fire Marshal Caryn Petty, State Fire Training; Fire Instruction Director Gary Dominguez, Santa Ana College; and Training Captain Shawn Tukua, Los Angeles Fire Department. Introductions were facilitated by In-Service Training Captain Matthew Bolen, Long Beach Fire Department, that included Chief Jeff Hardin, Chief Robbie Grego, Captain Brian Vanderwal, Captain Gary Schall, Firefighter Tanya Vasquez, and Department support staff members Chelsea Davis, Henry Haley, and Sue Feller.

A review of the Department's Self-Assessment Report (SAR) was discussed with agency representatives present, with requirements for supplemental documentation noted. Said documentation has since been received and has met the requirements as set forth by State Fire Training policies and procedures. The review of the SAR was followed by a tour of all classrooms and training facilities with opportunity to review training course records and equipment compliment.

**Analysis/Summary of Issue:**

A tour of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning training tower complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program as supplemented by satellite and

partnered training sites and locations. The Long Beach Fire Department successfully adheres to the 2013 Fire Fighter I curriculum and possesses all necessary materials for certification testing.

The training facility presents an appropriate academy classroom equipped with enhanced audio/visual equipment and necessary learning aids. All Academy recruits are provided sufficient study materials, devices, and equipment for applicable success within the Academy training. Several Registered Instructors within the agency participate in the Academy delivery and the Department will focus on hosting additional State Fire Training courses at their facility in conjunction with cooperating and neighboring agencies. All student records are maintained in a compliant and confidential manner in accordance with State Fire Training requirements.

To ensure success and compliance with upcoming Fire Fighter I testing, State Fire Training requires the Long Beach Fire Department training staff witness and participate in the testing process with other experienced agencies or colleges in the region.

The Long Beach Fire Department has demonstrated an ambitious and exemplary devotion to training that is indicative of a proud, progressive, and professional organization. The Site Team is unanimous in the recommendation of Long Beach Fire Department being designated as an Accredited Local Academy in the State Fire Training system.